

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 06997 271837Z

64

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

XMB-02 /099 W

----- 103190

R 271450Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6495

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMA 6997

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, ETRD

SUBJECT: ANDEAN PACT: POSITION ON MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS (MTN)

REF: STATE 181868

1. UNDER ANDEAN PACT RULES, THE COUNTRY EXERCISING THE
PRESIDENCY OF THE COMMISSION IS THE SPOKESMAN FOR ALL SIX
MEMBER COUNTRIES IN MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.
CHANGE IN PRESIDENCY TAKES PLACE THE SECOND WEEK OF
NOVEMBER OF EACH YEAR, ROTATING IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY
COUNTRY. THIS NOVEMBER THE PRESIDENCY WILL CHANGE FROM
BOLIVIA TO COLOMBIA.

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PAGE 02 LIMA 06997 271837Z

2. PATRICIO LEYVA, THE JUNTA OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF

TRADE POLICY, TOLD EMBOFF THAT ALL OTHER ACTION WILL REMAIN PARALYZED UNTIL THE CRITICAL SECTORIAL PROGRAMS IN THE PETROCHEMICAL AND AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRIES ARE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. THE COMMISSION, MADE UP OF PLENIPOTENTIARY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES, STARTED A MEETING ON AUGUST 26. LEYVA EXPRESSED THAT THE COMMISSION MEMBERS ARE AWARE OF THE URGENCY OF A JOINT POSITION IN THE UPCOMING MTN AND THAT THIS ISSUE MAY BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA IF AGREEMENT IS REACHED ON AT LEAST THE PETROCHEMICAL PROGRAM.

3. IF A FORMAL JOINT POSITION IS NOT WORKED OUT IN ADVANCE OF THE MTN MEETINGS, THE MEMBER COUNTRIES WOULD IN THEORY STILL BE SEVERELY LIMITED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THEY COULD NOT, FOR EXAMPLE, MAKE TARIFF CONCESSIONS WHICH WOULD VIOLATE THE ANDEAN COMMON EXTERNAL TARIFF.

4. THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT SOME MEMBER COUNTRIES WOULD BREAK RANK IF NO PROGRESS IS MADE WITH SECTORIAL PROGRAMS AT THE CURRENT COMMISSION MEETING. PERU, FOR EXAMPLE, MIGHT WELL SUSPEND DUTY CONCESSIONS UNDER THE GENERAL TRADE LIBERALIZATION PROGRAM. HOWEVER, SUCH ACTION WOULD ONLY AFFECT INTRA-ANDEAN TRADE.

5. FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT THE ANDEAN COUNTRIES WILL AT LEAST COORDINATE THEIR POSITIONS AT THE MTN. JUNTA OFFICIALS CLAIM THAT THERE IS A BETTER THAN EVEN CHANCE THAT THE PETROCHEMICAL PROGRAM WILL BE APPROVED WITHIN THE NEXT TEN DAYS, WHICH WOULD HELP TO BREAK UP THE MOST SERIOUS LOGJAM FACED BY THE PACT SINCE ITS INCEPTION.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIMA06997
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750297-0404
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750814/aaaaalvr.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 181868
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANDEAN PACT: POSITION ON MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN)
TAGS: ECIN, ETRD, ANCOM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006